



# **Anti-PD1 Agents:**

Immunotherapy agents in the treatment of metastatic melanoma

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# + Disclosure



- I have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

# + Objectives



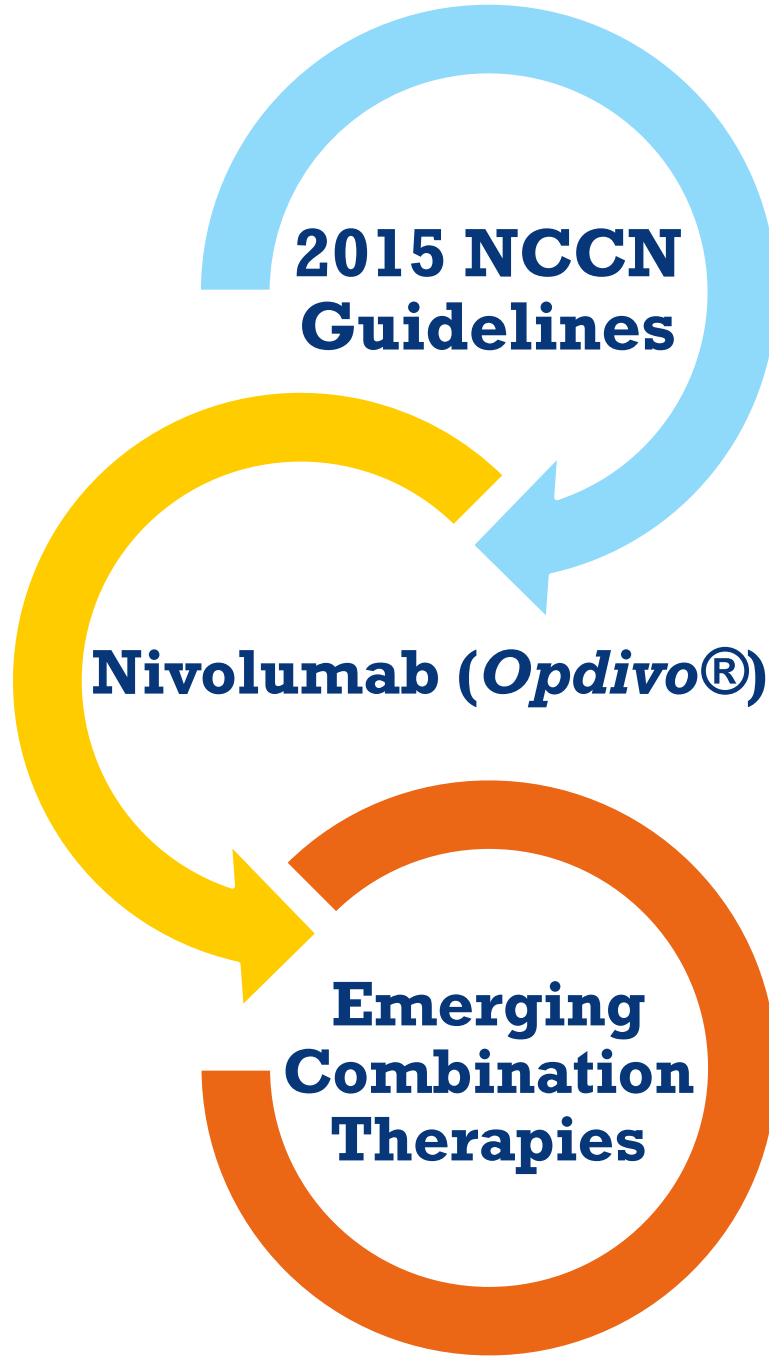
- Summarize NCCN Guidelines for systemic therapies in the treatment of advanced or metastatic melanoma
- Explain the mechanism of action of immunotherapy agents, CTLA-4 and anti-PD1 agents
- List the common side effects seen with immunotherapy agents
- Summarize pivotal clinical trials for the approval and utilization of nivolumab in the treatment of advanced or metastatic melanoma



**2015 NCCN  
Guidelines**

**Nivolumab (*Opdivo*®)**

**Emerging  
Combination  
Therapies**





# **2015 NCCN Guidelines**

National Comprehensive Cancer Network



# + Systemic Therapy Agents



## Immunotherapy

- Ipilimumab
- Pembrolizumab
- Nivolumab

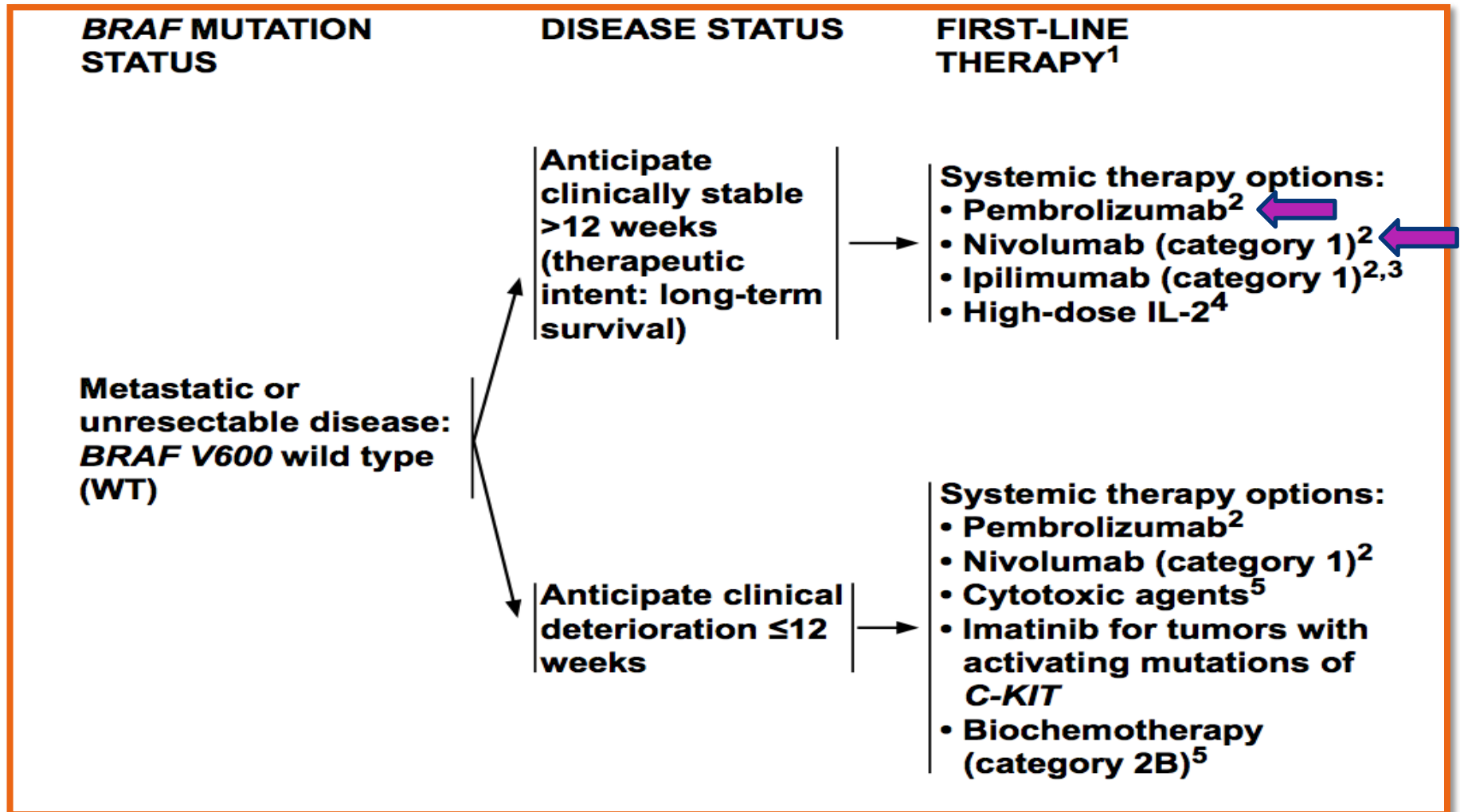
## Targeted

- Dabrafenib
- Vemurafenib
- Trametinib
- Imatinib

## Cytotoxic

- Dacarbazine
- Temozolomide
- Paclitaxel
- Paclitaxel + carboplatin
- Albumin-bound paclitaxel

# + Systemic Therapy for Metastatic or Unresectable Melanoma



# + Systemic Therapy for Metastatic or Unresectable Melanoma

## **BRAF MUTATION STATUS**

## **DISEASE STATUS**

## **FIRST-LINE THERAPY<sup>1</sup>**

**Metastatic or unresectable disease:  
BRAF V600 mutant type (MT)**

**Anticipate clinically stable >12 weeks (therapeutic intent: long-term survival)**

**Systemic therapy options:**

- Pembrolizumab<sup>2</sup>
- Nivolumab (category 1)<sup>2</sup>
- Ipilimumab (category 1)<sup>2,3</sup>
- Dabrafenib + trametinib (category 1)<sup>2</sup>
- High-dose IL-2<sup>4</sup>

**Anticipate clinical deterioration ≤12 weeks**

**Systemic therapy options:**

- Dabrafenib + trametinib (category 1) (preferred)<sup>2</sup>
- Vemurafenib (category 1)<sup>2</sup>
- Dabrafenib (category 1)<sup>2</sup>
- Pembrolizumab<sup>2</sup>
- Nivolumab (category 1)<sup>2</sup>





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## Immunotherapy Agents

Ipilimumab (*Yervoy*®)

Pembrolizumab (*Keytruda*®)

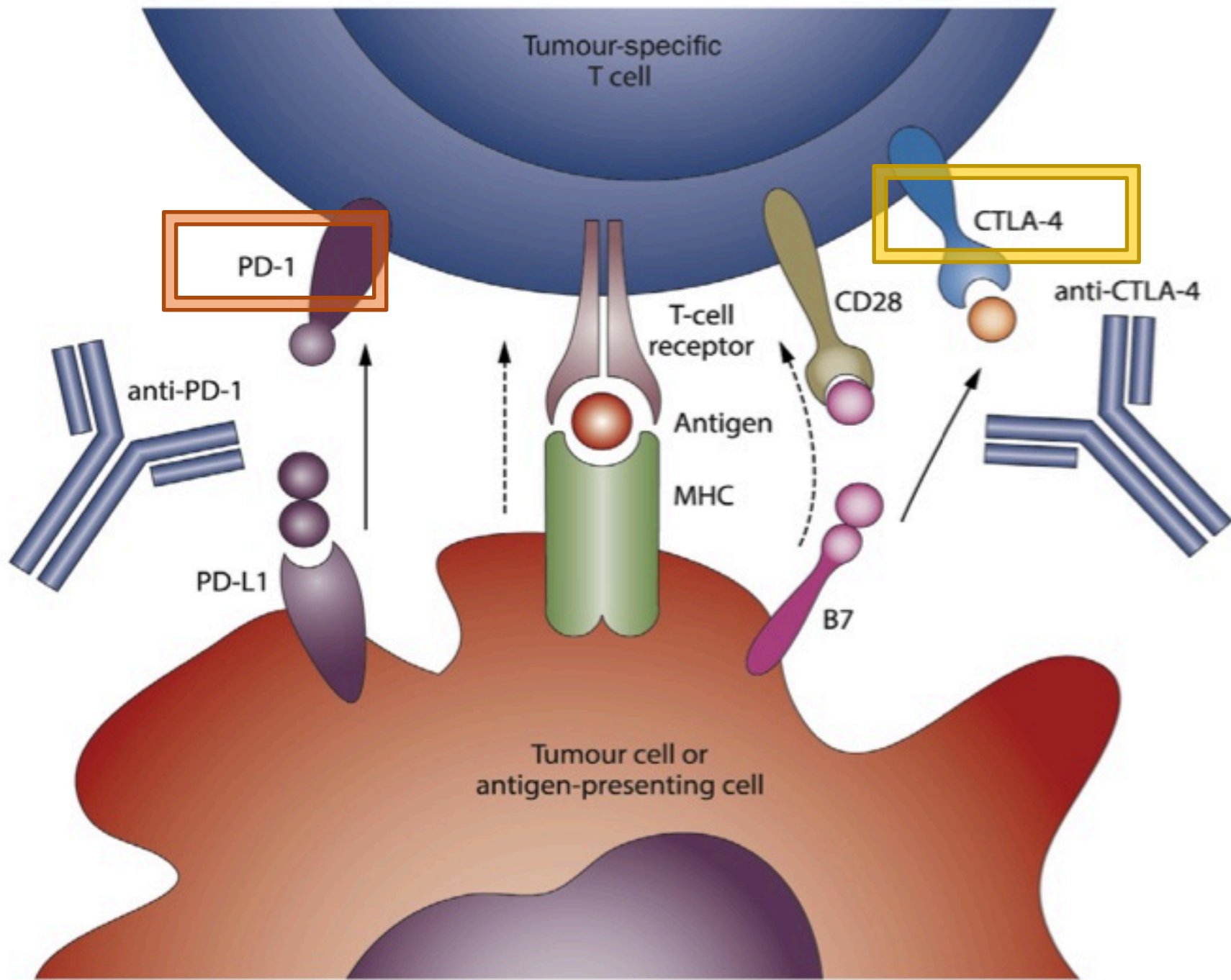
Nivolumab (*Opdivo*®)

# + Immunotherapy Agents

## *Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors (ICIs)*



- Immune system: T-cells
  - Regulated by series of co-stimulatory and inhibitory signals that serve as checkpoints
- Cytotoxic T-lymphocyte antigen-4 receptor (CTLA-4) and Programmed death-1 receptor (PD-1)
  - Checkpoint receptors that regulate immune response
  - Can be targeted and inhibited
- ICIs indirectly enhance immunological response to neoplastic cells





# + Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

## *Immune Related Adverse Events (irAEs)*



- Rash and mucosal irritation
- Diarrhea or colitis
- Hepatotoxicity: elevated levels of AST and ALT
- Endocrinopathies
  - Hypophysitis, autoimmune thyroid disease, adrenal insufficiency
- Eye, kidney, pancreas, neurologic, lung, and hematologic
- Severity of observed irAE is determined by a Grade system
  - Grade 1: Mild
  - Grade 2: Moderate
  - Grade 3 or 4: Severe or life-threatening



# + Nivolumab



- Human IgG4 monoclonal antibody that inhibits PD1 receptors
- FDA approved December 2014 for patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma
  - Disease progression following ipilimumab treatment or a BRAF inhibitor if BRAF V600 mutation positive
  - 3 mg/kg IV every 2 weeks until disease progression or unacceptable toxicity
  - Infuse over 60 minutes, D<sub>5</sub>W or NS
  - \$1151, \$2877 (*LexiComp*®)
- *CheckMate-037, CheckMate-066*



# + Nivolumab in Previously Untreated Melanoma without *BRAF* Mutation

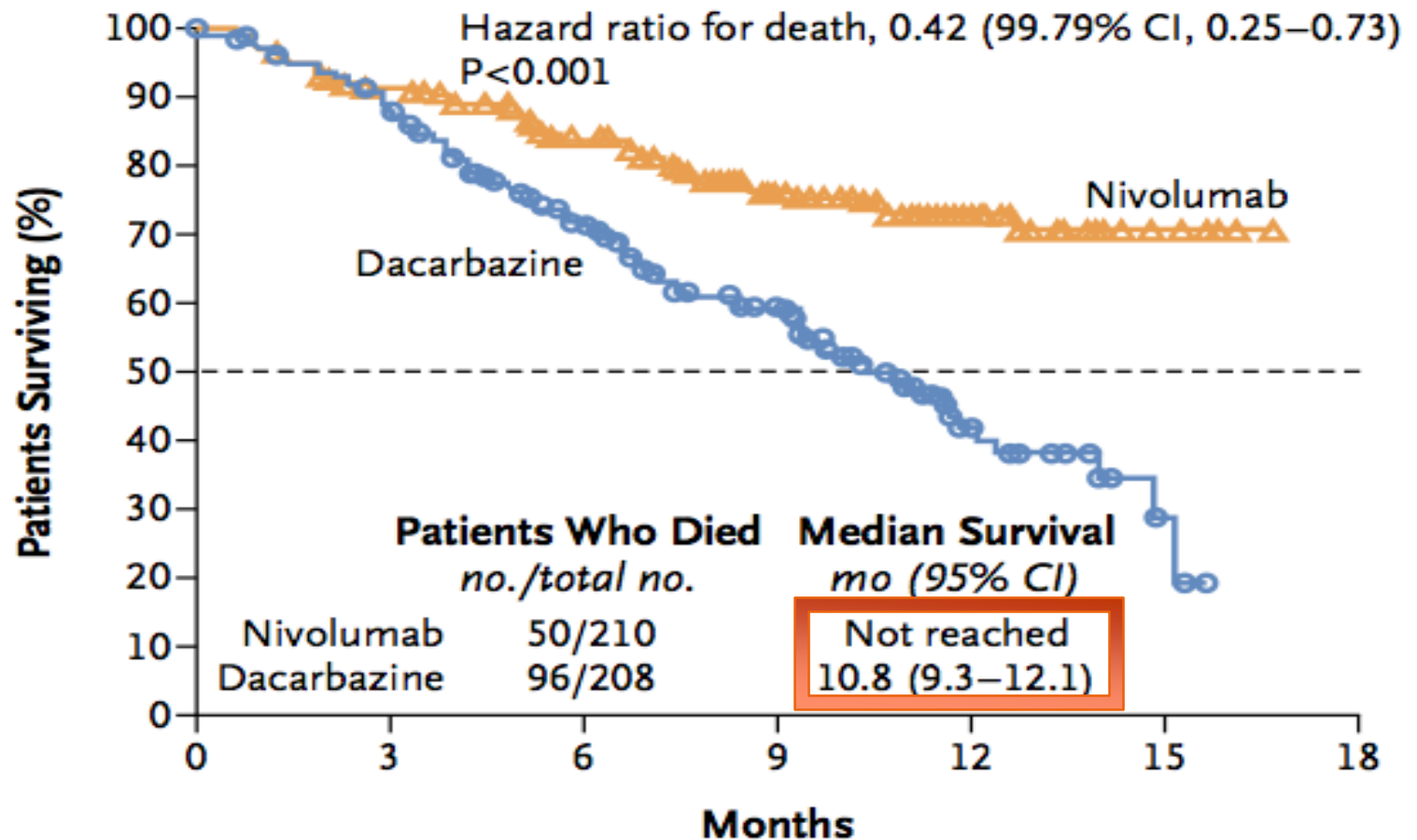
## *CheckMate-066*

- Phase III, randomized, placebo-controlled trial
  - Untreated, unresectable, Stage III or IV *BRAF* wild-type melanoma
  - Randomized 1:1 (n=418)
    - Nivolumab 3 mg/kg IV every 2 weeks (n=210)
    - Dacarbazine (DTIC) 1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV every 3 weeks\* (n=208)
  - Primary endpoint: overall survival
  - Secondary endpoints: investigator-assessed progression free survival, objective response rate, PD-L1 expression
- \*DTIC dose is higher than recommended (LexiComp®)

*Robert C, Long GV, Brady B, et al. N Engl J Med. 2015;372(4):320-30.*

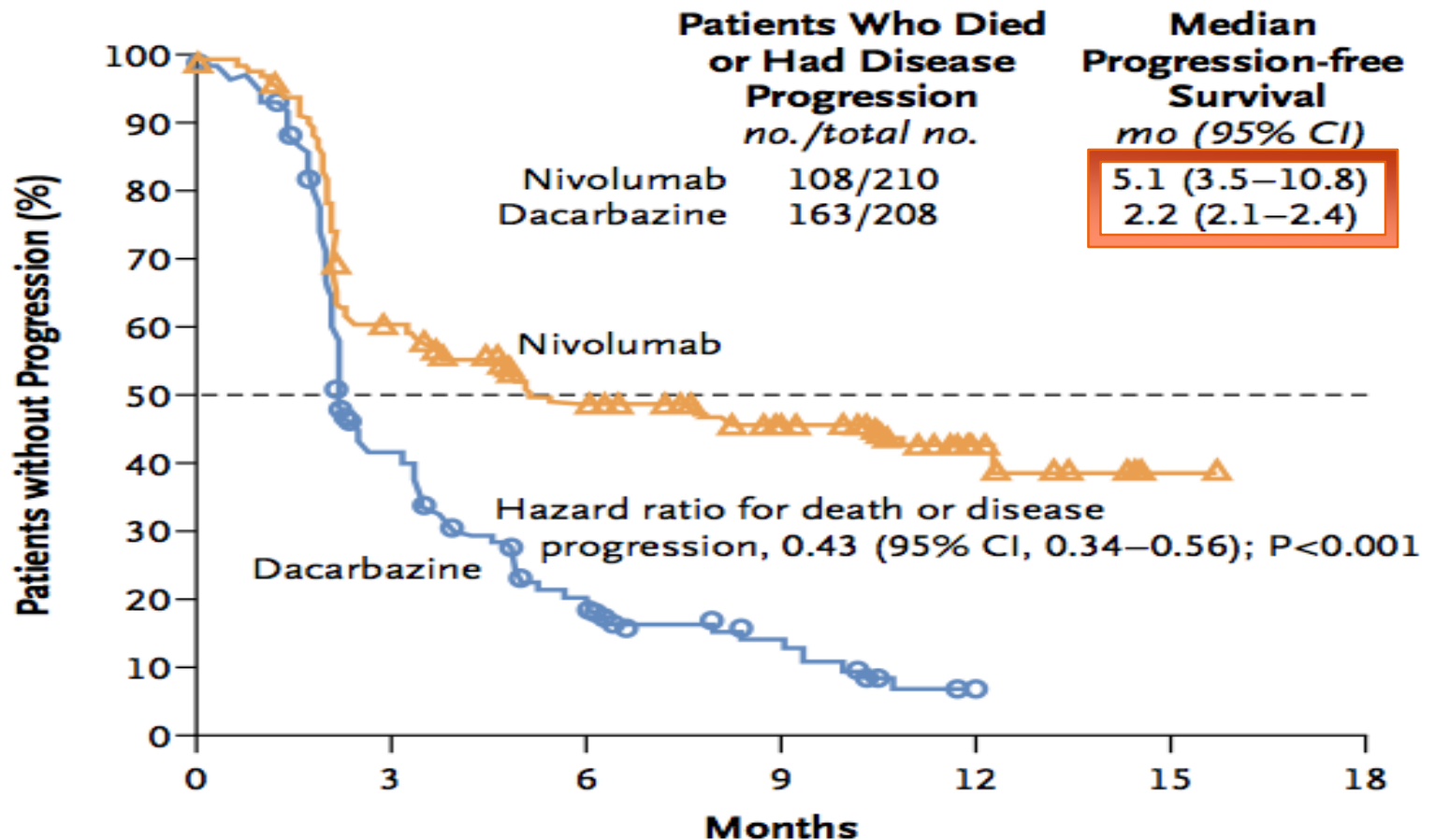
# + Nivolumab in Previously Untreated Melanoma without *BRAF* Mutation *CheckMate-066*

## A Overall Survival



# + Nivolumab in Previously Untreated Melanoma without *BRAF* Mutation *CheckMate-066*

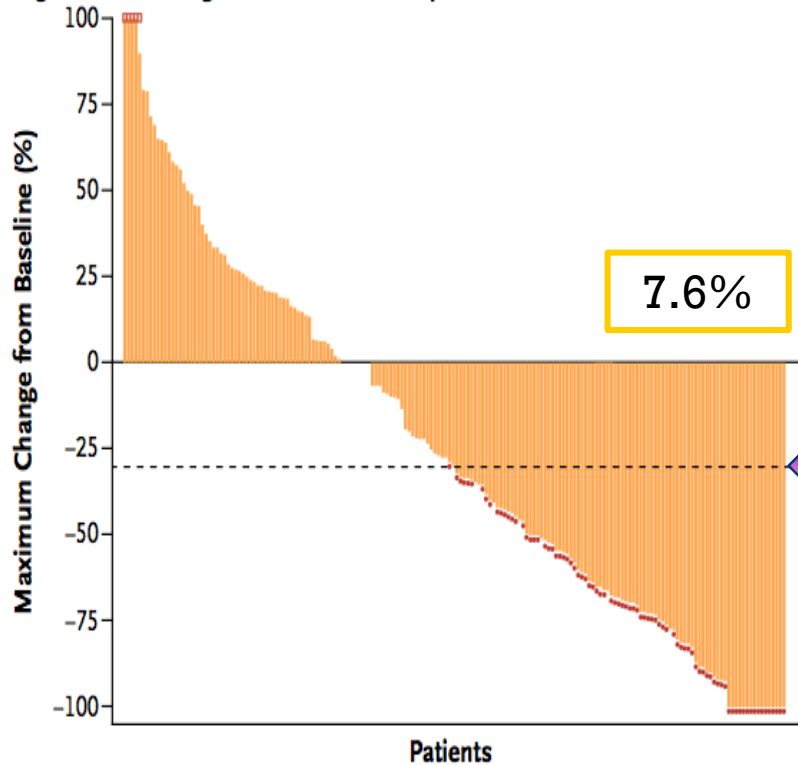
## B Progression-free Survival



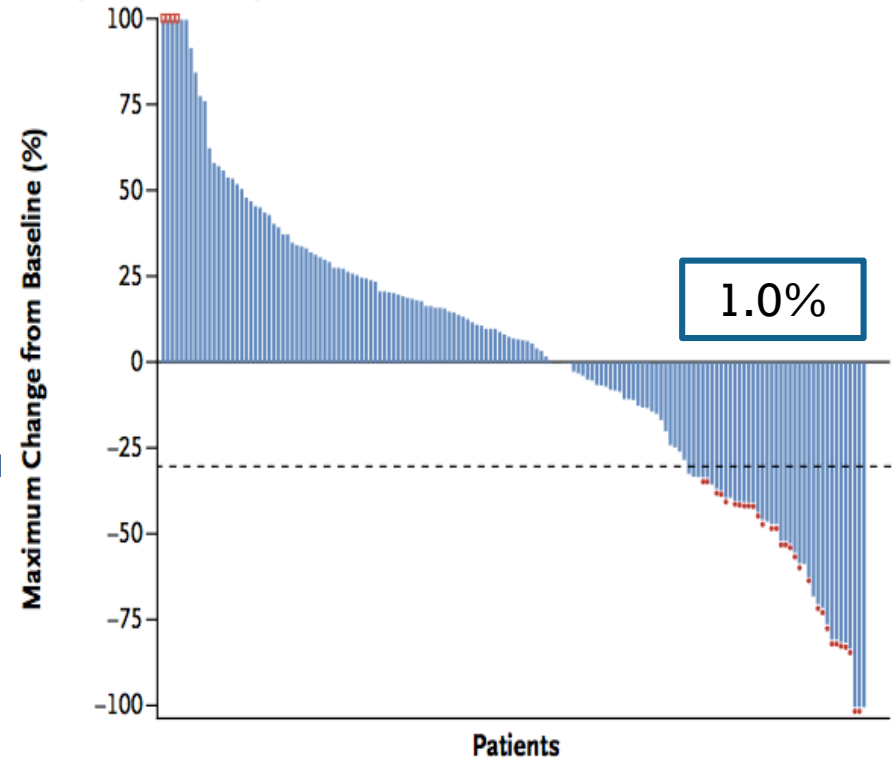


# + Nivolumab in Previously Untreated Melanoma without *BRAF* Mutation *CheckMate-066*

**A** Target-Lesion Change in Nivolumab Group



**B** Target-Lesion Change in Dacarbazine Group



# + Nivolumab in Previously Untreated Melanoma without *BRAF* Mutation

## *CheckMate-066*

	<b>Nivolumab</b>	<b>DTIC</b>	<b>HR (OR)</b>	<b>P-value</b>
Median Overall Survival	N/A	10.8 months		
Overall Survival at 1 year (%)	72.9	42.1	0.42	<0.001
Median PFS	5.1 months	2.2 months	0.43	<0.001
ORR (%)	40.0	13.9	4.06	<0.001
Median Duration of Response	N/A	6.0 months		

Robert C, Long GV, Brady B, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2015;372(4):320-30.

# + Nivolumab in Previously Untreated Melanoma without *BRAF* Mutation

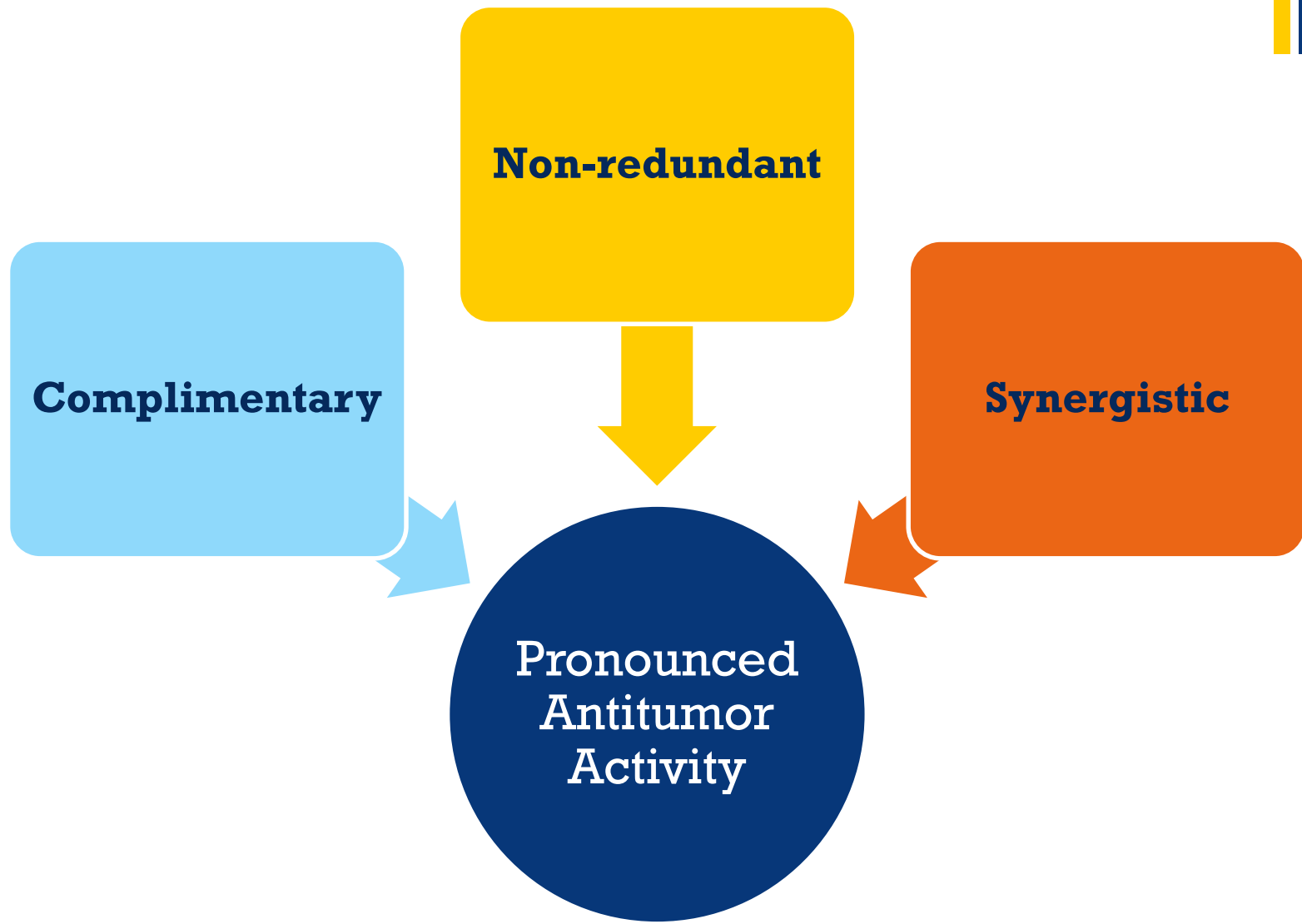
## *CheckMate-066*

	<b>Nivolumab</b>	<b>DTIC</b>
Any adverse event (%)	74.3	75.6
Grade 3-4	11.7	17.6
Treatment discontinued	6.8	11.7
No deaths were attributed to drug toxicity		

	<b>Nivolumab</b>	<b>DTIC</b>
Most common adverse event	Fatigue, pruritus, nausea	GI and hematologic toxicities



# + Combination Therapy: *CTLA-4 and Anti-PD1 agents*



# + Summary



- Anti-PD1 agents
  - NCCN 2015 Guidelines: first-line therapy for metastatic melanoma
  - Panel consensus: higher response rates and less toxicities versus ipilimumab
- Combination therapy: potential advantage for durability of response
  - Rapid response of greater magnitude
  - Elevated LDH level, M1c disease, and bulky, multifocal tumor burden
  - Effect on overall survival remains to be defined
- Emerging indications
  - PD-L1 tumor expression guidance
  - Non-small cell lung cancer
  - Ovarian, metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma, and classical Hodgkin's Lymphoma



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Questions?

# + References



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